

House Resolution 1660

By: Representative Ralston of the 7th

A RESOLUTION

1 Recognizing the 2008 Blue Ridge Mountain Adventure Race and the Blue Ridge Mountain
2 Arts Association and declaring 2008 as the Year of Arts and Adventure in Fannin County;
3 and for other purposes.

4 WHEREAS, the Blue Ridge Mountain Adventure Race, hosted annually by the Fannin
5 County Chamber of Commerce, celebrates its eleventh anniversary on April 12, 2008; and

6 WHEREAS, beginning in 1998 with 15 teams, the race has grown to include 100 teams,
7 competing on a rigorous course of approximately 35 to 40 miles of rugged terrain in the
8 Chattahoochee National Forest; and

9 WHEREAS, adventure racing is an exciting team sport that uniquely combines multiple
10 disciplines such as running, biking, rowing, and climbing over long and difficult outdoor
11 courses and has traditionally encouraged mixed gender competition; and

12 WHEREAS, the 11th Annual Blue Ridge Mountain Adventure Race will feature racing
13 venues in running, canoeing, and mountain biking and will include a number of surprise
14 challenges as contestants approach the finish line in downtown Blue Ridge City Park, where
15 there will be bluegrass music, food, and Blue Ridge hospitality waiting for them; and

16 WHEREAS, Blue Ridge has been named as the location for the site of the United States
17 Adventure Racing Association's national competition on November 7, 2008; and

18 WHEREAS, the Blue Ridge race has generated a significant economic return each year and
19 has attracted the attention of outdoor enthusiasts throughout the country, bringing national
20 recognition to the beauty and hospitality of the Blue Ridge community and the State of
21 Georgia; and

1 WHEREAS, the Blue Ridge Mountains Arts Association is celebrating outdoor adventure
2 in 2008 with a permanent exhibit of the work of Richard Lowe Evans, featuring paintings of
3 the 1996 Olympic Kayak competition; and

4 WHEREAS, the Blue Ridge Mountains Arts Association produces the annual Arts in the
5 Park Festival on Memorial Day weekend and the Wildlife and Nature Art Festival and Expo
6 in September, celebrating both art and adventure; and

7 WHEREAS, the Blue Ridge Mountains Arts Association will serve as headquarters for the
8 USARA National Adventure Race in November, also featuring a national juried art show by
9 the Southern Appalachian Artists Guild.

10 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES that
11 the members of this body recognize the 2008 Blue Ridge Mountain Adventure Race and the
12 Blue Ridge Mountain Arts Association, congratulate the Blue Ridge community on being
13 chosen as the site for the 2008 United States Adventure Racing Association's national
14 competition, and declare 2008 as the Year of Arts and Adventure in Fannin County.

15 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Clerk of the House of Representatives is authorized
16 and directed to transmit an appropriate copy of this resolution to the Fannin County Chamber
17 of Commerce.